GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:228
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2000
SCIENCE CENTRES
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have established district science centers in the country to popularize science and technology in the urban and rural areas for the benefit of students;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and location-wise;

(c) the criteria being followed to establish such centers and select the location for such centres;

(d) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred on the establishment of each centre;

(e) whether the Government propose to establish such centres in all the districts of the country;

(f) if so, the time likely to be taken in this regard;

(g) whether the Government have established any such centers in Maharashtra; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefore?

Answer

MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (Dr. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

(a) to (h) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (h) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 228 FOR REP 05.12.2000 REGARDING SCIENCE CENTRES.

(a) The National Council of Science Museums (NCSM), an autonomous organization under the aegis of the Department of Culture Ministry of Tourism & Culture, Government of India has set up several national level, regional level and district/sub-regional level science centers all over India for popularization of science and technology amongst students in particular and the masses in general and for creating a scientific awareness among them through a wide range of activities and interactive programmes.

(b) NCSM administers and manages the following science museums/centres countrywide, including three centres / museums in Maharashtra;

Sl.No.	Name of the Centre	Location	State
1	Birla Industrial & Technological Museum (BITM)	Calcutta	W.B.
2	Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museum (VITM)	Bangalore	Karnataka
3	Nehru Science Centre (NSCM)	Mumbai	Maharashtra
4	National Science Centre (NSCD)	Delhi	Delhi
5	Central Research & Training Laboratory (CRTL)	Calcutta	W.B.
6	Srikrishna Science Centre	Patna	Bihar
7	Regional Science Centre	Lucknow	U.P.
8	Regional Science Centre	Bhubaneswar	Orissa
9	Raman Science Centre	Nagpur	Maharashtra
10	Raman Planetarium	Nagpur	Maharashtra
11	Regional Science Centre	Guwahati	Assam
12	Regional Science Centre	Bhopal	M.P.
13	Regional Science Centre	Tirupati	Andhra Pradesh
14	Regional Science Centre	Calicut	Kerala
15	Calicut Planetarium	Calicut	Kerala
16	District Science Centre	Purulia	W.B.
17	District Science Centre	Gulbarga	Karnataka
18	District Science Centre	Dharampur	Gujarat
19	District Science Centre	Tirunelveli	Tamilnadu

20 Bardhaman Science Centre Barrdhaman W.B.
21 Dhenkanal Science Centre Dhenkanal Orissa
22 Digha Science Centre & National Science Camp Digha W.B.
23 North Bengal Science Centre Siliguri W.B.
24 Kapilas Science Park Kapilas Orissa
25 Science Activity Centre Gwalior M.P.
26 Science Activity Centre Sirsa Haryana
27 Kurukshetra Panorama & Science Centre Kurukshetra Haryana
28 Goa Science Centre Panaji Goa
29 Science City Calcutta W.B.

(c) The criteria for setting up a district/sub-regional science centre as follows :

(i) NCSM will provide expertise for setting up the centres;

(ii) Land - A plot of developed land measuring approximately 5 acres to be provided by the State Government free of cost;

(iii) Capital Expenditure - The total capital expenditure is shared on 50 : 50 basis by the respective State Government and Government of India. However, in case of North-east States and island states, the ratio is different;

(iv) Operation - District / sub-regional science centres has to be fully maintained by the respective State Government. NCSM trains the staff members recruited by the State Government for the Centre.

(d) The estimated capital expenditure for each district / sub-regional science centres is Rs. 2 crores.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Time taken for each district/sub-regional science centre is 24 months.

(g) In addition to the centres mentioned in para (b) of the statement, a fleet of Mobile Science Exhibition Buses hold exhibitions throughout Maharashtra.

(h) Not applicable.